

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1936

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, SNAR VE, US

SUBJECT: THE VEEP CONNECTION-MESSRS. AGNEW AND SINATRA
REPORTEDLY HERE

1. ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY JOURNAL (DJ) DAZZLED READERS NOVEMBER 30 WITH FRONT PAGE STORY ALLEGING FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AGNEW AND SINGER FRANK SINATRA ARE IN CARACAS TO MAKE A MOVIE. STORY CLAIMS MOVIE, CALLED "THE CARACAS CONNECTION", WILL BE RELEASED BY TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX NEXT YEAR, AND ADDS THAT AGNEW WILL PLAY PART OF SEEMINGLY RESPECTABLE CITIZEN LATER REVEALED TO BE HEAD OF A NARCOTICS RING. FILMING IS TO TAKE PLACE IN SLUMS AS WELL AS NIGHT CLUBS TO SHOW "THE REAL CARACAS". WHEREABOUTS OF AGNEW AND SINATRA ARE SUPPOSED TO BE DEEP SECRET FOR SECURITY REASONS. SINCE NO ONE CAN FIND THEM, SECRECY SEEMS TO BE HOLDING UP NICELY. NO OTHER PAPER HAS STORY.

2. THOUGH THIS READS LIKE A MAD MAGAZINE FEATURE, IT IS BEING TAKEN SERIOUSLY BY DJ, WHICH GOT IT AS AN EXCLUSIVE FROM SOMEONE CLAIMING TO BE SINATRA BODYGUARD GUS SAVERESE. SOURCE, DESCRIBED AS DEAD RINGER FOR SAVERESE (WHO HAD RECEIVED WIDE PUBLICITY HERE THROUGH AN ARTICLE IN "COSMOPOLITAN" IN SPANISH) VISITED DJ NOVEMBER 29 AND TOLD REPORTER THAT SINATRA AND AGNEW HAD ARRIVED PREVIOUS DAY IN THE SINGER'S JET. HE CLAIMED AGNEW IS ACCOMPANIED BY SECRET SERVICE AGENTS. HIS INFORMATION ABOUT SINATRA AND OTHER

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ACTORS IN FILM WAS SKETCHY, BUT FACT THAT PAPER HAD RECEIVED A

TELEPHONED TIP DAY BEFORE THAT AGNEW AND SINATRA WERE ON WAY MADE
"SAVERESE" STORY MORE PLAUSIBLE.

3. DJ HAS NO OTHER CONFIRMATION OF STORY AND EMBASSY HAS NO
INFORMATION TO BACK IT UP, BUT IS CHECKING AIRPORT ARRIVALS OF
PRIVATE PLANES. IF, HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT LEARNS STORY IS CREDIBLE,
PLEASE ADVISE. EMBOFFS DO NOT WANT TO MISS THE FILM--PROVIDED
THEY ARE NOT PNG'S BEFORE ITS RELEASE.
MCCLINTOCK

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